



**United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
District of Minnesota**

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News Release

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U.S. Attorney's Office to review downtown Minneapolis hotels for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

The United States Attorney's Office is conducting a review of hotels in downtown Minneapolis to determine whether they are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

U.S. Attorney Frank J. Magill announced the initiative, and sent a detailed survey to 24 hotels. Survey responses are to be completed by Oct. 15. Additional hotels will be reviewed in the future.

The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by private entities that own or operate "places of public accommodation," which includes hotels. The ADA authorizes the Department of Justice to investigate complaints and to undertake periodic reviews of compliance of facilities covered by the law.

Magill said it may be necessary for representatives of his office to conduct on-site inspections to confirm survey responses. "This is a review process, not an enforcement action," he added. "It is our goal to work with hotel owners and operators to secure voluntary compliance with the law's requirements.

"The ADA is vitally important to Minnesota residents and to visitors to this state, and it is imperative that hotels and other public accommodations comply with their obligations under federal law."

The ADA review is being undertaken in accordance with the Justice Department's statutory responsibilities to review compliance, not in response to a specific complaint against any of the hotels surveyed.

Hotels that have not yet received a survey may initiate their own internal review by contacting Assistant U.S. Attorneys Mary Trippler or Ana Voss at 612-664-5600. Members of the public wishing to file a complaint alleging that any hotel in Minnesota is not accessible to

people with disabilities may use the Civil Rights Complaint Form available at www.ada.gov.